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Annual Report.

To the Dursley Rural District Council,

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.

Population in 1901.	11,636.
Area in acres (land only)	25,521.
Inhabited Houses.	2,753.
Estimated Population to July.	11,146.

The district consists of eleven parishes viz:— Cam, Coaley, Dursley, Kingswood, North Nibley, Nympsfield, Owlpen, Slimbridge, Stinchcombe, Uley & Wotton-under-Edge.

Inspector of Nuisances,
Mr William Webb,
Uley.

To the Dursley Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen.

Discription of District.

The Rural District of Dursley is situated on the sides & buttresses of the Western Cotswolds, which hills Geologically consist almost entirely of white-lime stone. Great quantities of clay & marl lie in the valleys and run to considerable distances up the hillsides with here & there a bed of gravel. Many Springs of bright clear water rise at the foot or on the hillsides which unite in their respective valleys and so form the streams of the district,- the chief among which are the Cam, the Nibley-brook, the Dyers-brook, the Alderley-brook, and the Wickwar-brook. The Cam drains, Uley, Dursley, Cam and the greater part of Coaley, it empties itself.

The streams of the District

into the Berkeley & Gloucester Canal in the parish of Slimbridge: through which parish the canal passes.

The Nibley brook drains the greater part of North Nibley and discharges into the Watford-brook.

The Wyers-brook drains Wotton-under-Edge.

The Alderley-brook, the Alderley part of Wotton-under-Edge, these unite, and so form one stream which drains Kingswood, and joins the little Avon.

The Wickwar-brook drains only a small & remote part of the parish of Kingswood, but is chiefly important as forming a boundary between this District & Chipping Sodbury & Thornbury Rural Districts.

With about one exception, it may be said these streams are not used for domestic purposes.

The Villages of the District

The Villages which make up the District vary in more directions than one; as to population per acre, some are fairly compact, - while others are scattered; As to situation some are built on the hillsides & abutments which run out to different distances in the valley of the Severn, others again are on lower ground, Wrympsfield is the only village situated near the top of the hill, and is from 700 to 800 ft above sea level, and Slimbridge is the only village wholly situated in the valley. So that for the most part the District is naturally well drained.

House accommodation,

During the Year we inspected eleven new dwellings, and one constructed out of an old

wash-house under Public Health Act (Ammendment) act 1890. Part III Sec 33, sub section 2.

Housing of Working Classes 1890.

One cottage was closed under the above act

Cleansing & Limewashing. Sec 46 Public Health Act 1875.

Three have been cleansed on notice under the above section.

Plans of new Buildings

Three sets of plans of new Buildings in Bursley have been examined & passed by your Board.

Sanitary Arrangements of new Building

Under sees 21 to 25 Public Health act 1875.

We inspected the sanitary provisions to twelve new dwellings. Seven house-drains emptied into sewers; three into cesspits, and two into septic tanks.

Sec 35 & 36. We found 10 supplied with W Cs. Two with pail-closets. As pits are not often constructed, either the ashes are collected by the Scavenger or used in pail-closets instead of dry-earth.

We found the drain from the washing up-trough in one new building emptying into a drain under-ground, instead of over or near a gully-trap. This the owner promised to get remedied.

Housing & Town Planning Act 1909.

At the request of Your Board on October 20th I made a report on the working of the above act. But up to the end of December only a committee had been formed to carry out the suggestions. Nothing practical had been accomplished.

Public Health (Water) act 1878.

Under above we have inspected the water-supply to eleven new and one reconstructed dwellings & eleven water certificates have been issued by.

Your Board during the Year.

Sewage & Sewers. There were 62 houses newly connected with the sewers in Wiresley. Five in Cam, and two in Wolton-under-Edge.

Wolton-under-Edge has no proper system of Sewerage but a scheme is in hand for properly draining the town & treating the sewage.

The Sewage which finds its way into the other streams of the District is but small in quantity & what of excrement is not water-borne is collected in cesspools, privies or pail-closets. There are a great many pail-closets in Wolton-under-Edge, some in Wiresley and other parts of the District, but the most common method of collecting it, in the small villages is by the privy-with-vault and this is without doubt the most undesirable. These are usually emptied once a year by the occupier. Cesspools are usually emptied once a year by the occupier.

Scavenging Public Health act 1875.

No change has been made in the ~~scavenging~~ scavenging of the district during the Year, only the refuse of Wolton-under-Edge must be kept within the bounds of the parish.

Water Supply.

The water supply of the district is as follows; and in order of time; Coaley, Kingswood, Wolton-under-Edge and Wiresley have public supplies. In Wiresley 10 connections with the Public supply have been made, and in Wolton-under-Edge 2. No change in the parishes of Coaley & Kingswood.

The parish of Cam.

There is a small supply in Upper Cam & another in Lower Cam, these supplies are by means of stand-

pipes or cisterns with taps. All the remaining parishes are supplied by springs, deep & shallow wells some with, many without pumps.
All these water supplies are under the control of Your Board. All the water in the district is more or less hard, but for the most part it may be said to be fairly well supplied with water. No further change has been made in the District with regard to water supply during the Year.
The rain-fall during the Year was 37.22 inches.

Water Analysis

Seven samples of water were examined during the Year, and all were found fit for domestic use

The Common Lodging Houses.

There are only two of the above in the District these are situated in Walton-under-Edge, both were visited by us under the bye-laws relating there-to, in April, & again in November, and were found in a satisfactory condition.

Slaughterhouses.

Under the bye-laws relating there-to we visited & inspected 23 of the above between October 14th and November 8th. We found it necessary to recommend limewashing in one only.

Dairies, Cowshed, Milkshops & Milkstores.

There are 71 names in the Inspectors Journal under one of the above headings. To these premises 108 visits of inspection have been made during the Year. With the following result - viz. There was found under

Structural Sanitary State.

a. Lighting — Good.
b. Ventilation — Good.

c. Cleansing. Three required limewashing
d. Drainage One drain found in a dairy, this was remedied, and three floors defective. These relaid.
e. Water supply. Good.
f. W. Cs Not any, Art 10. Dairies Orders.

Dangerous Infectious Disease.

Cases of Scarlet fever sprang up at a Dairy farm Wymsfield, these were removed to the Moors, soon as possible, the premises cleansed & limewashed, and as far as we know, no other case arose from this source.

Factory & Workshops Act 1901.

In the Inspector's Journal, there were registered under the following headings, 32 Factories, 34 Workshops, 3. Laundries & 37 Retail bakehouses. making a total of 96. This includes three out-workers.

There were 33 visits of inspection made to Factories 101 to Workshops, including Retail-bake-houses. Laundries and out-workers, making a total of 134.

With the following information gained & defects remedied viz:—

(Sec 2 (1)) Cleanliness. Six required limewashing, 4 Workshops, 1 bakehouse & 1 Laundry.
(S 2 (1) 7) Ventilation One Workshop, not well ventilated
(S 2. (1) 3) Overcrowding. Two cases in Workrooms, remedied
(S 2 (2)) Nuisances, effluvia from drains etc. Not any.
(S 8) Drainage of floors. One defective remedied.
(S 14) Means of escape from Fire. All recorded as satisfactory.

Retail Bakehouses.

(S 97) Ashpits, Cisterns, Drains etc. Not any.

(Sec 98) Fitness on Sanitary Ground. All satisfactory.
(Sec 100) If sleeping place on same level. Not any.
(Sec 101) Whether underground & certified Not any.
(Sec 133) Failure to affix Abstract. Seven notices were sent to H. M. Inspector of Factories under the above section.

Closet Accommodation at Factories & Workshops.
This has been improved or new provided at five different Factories & Workshops.

Dangerous Infectious Disease.
The above have shown themselves at three different homes, where work is carried on under the above act. one of Erysipelas at a Sempstresses, and Scarlet fever at two different Laundries's.
The work was stopped until after the above cottages had been properly disinfected and cleansed. Here I would mention that the L. G. Board desired to know in the Annual Report whether there was imported labour for hop-picking - picking of peas or fruit in the District - The answer to this is - There is not any.

Nuisances Sec 91. Public Health act 1875.
Under the above section 80 were reported to the Council, also 2 swine nuisances.
Total number of preliminary notices served. 43.
Total number of Statutory notices served. 87.
Total number of Nuisances abated 108.

Burial Grounds.
In consequence of a complaint of overcrowding made about the Church-yard, Wotton-under-Edge & a report upon the same by myself and also one by Dr. Bond, the Local Goverment Board ordered an equiry to be made by Richard Reece Esq

M. D.

One of the Boards Inspectors. This was carried out on Feb 2nd. I with Mr Webb & several members of the parish Council with the Vicar met Mr Reece on that day who carried out a thorough investigation of the grave-yard made a report to the Local Goverment Board. — Result - Not yet closed for burials.

Prosecutions. There was no prosecution during the Year.

Attendance at Meeting of Rural District Council.

These were thirteen during the Year.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act.

Table III Under the above act 59 cases were notified during the Year, these being 9 of Diphtheria, 4 Erysipelas, 45 of Scarlet fever, and one of Puerperal-fever. There were 51 in the Dursley District, & 8 in the Wotton-under-Edge district. There were 16 removed to the Isolation hospital from the Dursley district. There were 18 in the first quarter of the Year, 8 in the second, 13 in the third and 20 in the fourth.

Dangerous Infectious Sickness.

There have been 53 cases of dangerous infectious sickness entered in the District Medical Officers Relief books during the Year. All notifiable were duly notified.

There were 38 of Influenza, 6 of Phthisis, 7 of diarhoea, 1 of Scarlet-fever, and one of Whooping-cough. There were 18 in the Dursley & 35 in the Wotton-under-Edge District.

Means taken in this district to prevent the spread of dangerous infectious disease.

I All notifiable diseases where there is urgency are visited, by Mr Webb or myself or both of us together as soon as possible after the notification certificate

has been received.

II The inspector sends without delay printed instructions relating to isolation, disinfection etc, to all cases.

III Disinfectants are supplied free of cost to all people in humble life.

IV In all cases where there is a child or children attending a public elementary school or schools from an infected home, there is forwarded Memorandum (C) giving information as to the Nature of the infected in such and such household, to the Managers, Master, or Mistress, of such school or schools as early as is possible. Of these 33 sent during the Year.

V. When the infected person has recovered the house thoroughly disinfected & cleansed it is inspected, if found to be satisfactory a certificate is forwarded of "Proper Disinfection" to the afore said school Authorities.
Of these 18 were sent during the Year.

VI In 1904 Your Board passed a resolution authorizing disinfection of room or rooms after death & burial in cases of Phthisis Of these 13 were disinfected during the Year.

VII The disinfection of Public elementary schools where there has been good reason for suspecting infection of such premises. Of these one was disinfected.

VIII The closing of public elementary schools in consequence of the prevalence of dangerous infectious disease in accordance with the "memorandum of the Local Government Board January 1908" "With a view to prevent the spread of disease". This was carried out

on the following parish.
The Public Elementary schools at Wymps field were closed for 21 days from July 11th.

IF During 1907 Your Board resolved to send notices of the prevalence of dangerous infectious disease to Superendendants of Sunday schools in district in which the public elementary schools were closed, asking for their co-operation in preventing the spread of disease. This was done in the usual Order.

I Removals to the Infectious hospital. Sixteen were removed to the Moors during the Year.

II Bacteriological Diagnosis
Have no record of the number of swabs sent during the Year.

XII Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908.
Under the above the District Medical Officers are instructed to notify the Medical Officer of Health of cases of pulmonary phthisis coming under their care for treatment. I received four notifications. These were visited by myself and Mr Webb.
During the Year Dr. Martin, the County Medical Officer of Health & school Medical Officer, instituted a system of Notification of dangerous infectious & infectious disease, not dangerous, the School-masters & mistresses reporting all such to the Medical Officer of Health, placing him & the School Medical Officer in touch with all such & bringing all more or less under their control. it, supplementing the Infectious disease (Notification) act, seems to encompass all forms of infectious disease. In my opinion a very good system, increasing

the duties of the Medical Officer of Health. Cant not his reward.

One case of Anthrax was reported during the Year, by Supt. Biggs of Stroud, as occurring at a farm in Wymondfield. As far as we know, no human being contracted the disease.

The Isolation Hospital

This is situated at the Moors in the parish of Cooley, district of Dursley. It is intended for small-pox only & is capable of accommodating four of such cases.

Breaks Hearts Hill Hospital Site.

The above is still in the possession of Your Board, but is let to a tenant.

Vital Statistics.

Table I The population of this district in the census Year, according to Official information was 11,636, which was lower than had been estimated for that Year.

The estimation of the population to the middle of 1910 has been calculated on the proportional loss between the census years 1891 and 1901, so that it is estimated to be 11,146 and almost all the calculations are based upon the estimated population.

Table II This estimation of the population apportions to the combined districts of Dursley & Tuley with the workhouse 6898.

To Wotton-under-Edge district 4248.

The births registered during the Year in the whole district were 265 with a birth-rate 23.7. Of these 126 were males, & 139 females. For the different districts it is Dursley. 162. birth-rate 23.4. Wotton-under-edge 103, birth-rate 24.2

To the Administrative County of Gloucester in 1909 it was 21·6 For all England & Wales 25·6

Table II The deaths registered in the district during the year are 144 with a death-rate 12·9. But there were 12 deaths registered of persons belonging to this district which took place in Public Institutions beyond this District. There were also 2 deaths registered of persons not belonging to this district which took place in the Workhouse. These have to be subtracted from deaths registered in this district. This makes total nett deaths of persons belonging to this district 154 with death-rate of 13·8. This is called the general death rate. Of these 73 were males & 81 females.
The deaths for the District of Dursley were 93. with death-rate 13·4. For Wotton-under-Edge 61. death-rate 14·3.
The death-rate for the Administrative County of Gloucester for 1909 was 13·6. For all England & Wales 14·5.
Deaths in the period of old age were from 70-80 twenty-nine 80-90. twenty-five from 90-100. five.

Infant Mortality.
The deaths registered in the district under 1 year are 19, death-rate 71·7 This is the deaths under 1 year to the thousand births.
In 1909 for the Administrative County of Gloucester it was 81.
For all England & Wales 109.

Table C Calculates deaths from various causes under 1 year, in weeks & months. Also certified & uncertified, one was returned as uncertified. It also takes note of legitimate

and illegitimate births, 256 were legitimate & 9 illegitimate. Also the deaths of legitimate infants these were 19. The deaths of illegitimate infants Nil.

Table VI Deals with the working of the Factory & Workshops act, and is sent out from the Home Office this has been dealt with under that section.

Zymotic Diseases.

Table IV The seven principal Zymotic diseases are, Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet-fever, Diphtheria, & membranous-croup, Whooping-cough, Fevers & diarhea, and was the cause of death in 2 persons, in the District during the Year, and both were registered as from Diphtheria. Zymotic death-rate 0.17. Two died from enteritis death-rate 0.17. Two from Erysipelas. Fourteen from Phthisis, death-rate 1.25.
Four from other Tuberculous diseases, death-rate 0.35 Eighteen from cancer, death-rate 1.61
Seventeen from the acute Respiratory disease. death-rate 1.54. One from other deseases of the Respiratory Organs. Four from Alcoholism. One from Venereal desease. Three from premature-birth Two from diseases & Accidents of parturition. Twenty from heart-disease. Three from Accidents, and sixty-one from all other causes.
Fifteen died in the Workhouse during the Year. No death was registered in the district from Small-pox, Measles, Scarlet-fever, Whooping-cough, Croup, Fevers, Epidemic Influenza, Cholera, Plague, Diarhea, Gastritis, Puerperal-fever, nor Suicide.
A report was sent in by me on September 7th re the Local Goverment Boards Regulation concerning the supply and administration of Diphtheria Anti-

to in to the poorer inhabitants of the district
A report was sent in by me on the County
Medical Officers scheme on Hospital Combination
in the treatment of dangerous infectious
disease on December 1st 1910.
The Local Government Board desired to be informed
as to how the Medical Officer of health received
the death returns. Generally the Medical Officer
of health in whose district the institutions is
situated in which the death took place,
forwards a report in a few days, a week or
two after, to the Medical Officer of health to
whose district the deceased person belonged.
Other returns are sent by the Registrars of their
respective districts every week.

I remain,
Your Obedient Servant,
F. J. Mott

April 15th 1911.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 & previous Years

Name of District- Dursley Rural

Year	Population estimated to middle of each Year	Births		Total deaths of infants under one year of age registered in the District		Total births registered in the District		Total deaths in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	Net deaths at all ages belonging to the District	
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate per 1000 Births registered	Number	Rate				Number	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1900	11676	262	22·4	19	72·5	172	14·7	13				
1901	11623	258	22·9	18	70·5	153	13·1	7		3	150	12·73
1902	11570	237	20·4	31	130·8	190	16·4	14	1	3	193	16·6
1903	11517	283	24·5	24	84·8	157	13·8	16		2	159	13·8
1904	11464	266	23·2	19	71·4	141	12·3	12		9	150	13·
1905	11411	262	22·9	25	95·4	155	13·5	7	4	6	157	13·7
1906	11358	241	21·2	18	74·7	171	15	7		8	179	16·7
1907	11305	216	19·1	14	64·8	133	11·7	10		8	141	12·4
1908	11252	264	23·4	21	79·5	148	13·1	17		7	155	13·7
1909	11199	232	20·7	23	99·1	172	15·3	10		5	177	15·8
Average for 10 Years 1900-1909	11437·5	2518	21·9	212	84·2	1597	13·8	113				
1910	11146	265	23·7	19	71·7	144	12·9	15	12	12	154	13·8

Area of District (in Acres exclusive of Water) - 25,521.

Total Population at all ages 11,636

Number of Inhabited Houses 2,753

Average Number of Persons per House 4·2

i	ii	iii
Institutions within the district receiving sick & infirm persons from other districts	Institutions out of district receiving sick & infirm persons from the district	Of the Institutions the deaths in which have been distributed among the several Parishes or Districts of
Workhouse Dursley 2 deaths	Gloucester County Asylum. Royal Infirmary Gloucester. Bristol Royal Infirmary. Bristol General Hospital.	

Is the Union Workhouse within the District:— Yes

Name of District:- Dursley Rural

Year	1 Dursley District & Northlawn				2 Ruby District & Northlawn				3 Wotton-under-Edge District & Hyde Lawn			
	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all ages	Deaths under 1 year
1900	5177	117	77	8	1861	38	25	1	4638	107	70	10
1901	5170	110	49	4	1854	44	23	4	4599	101	74	10
1902	5163	113	72	12	1847	31	36	7	4560	93	84	12
1903	5156	127	62	9	1840	45	23	4	4521	111	74	11
1904	5149	119	62	6	1833	44	24	5	4482	103	64	8
1905	5142	125	68	14	1826	38	26	1	4443	99	67	10
Dursley & Ruby Districts Combined												
1906	6954	151	90	11					4404	90	89	7
1907	6940	118	86	11					4365	98	55	3
1908	6926	161	84	13					4326	103	71	8
1909	6912	142	113	13					4287	90	64	10
Averages of Years 1900 to 1909	6975	152·3	92	12·3					4462·5	99·5	71·2	8·7
1910	6898	162	93	17					4248	103	61	7

Table III.

Name of District— Dudley Rural

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1910

Notifiable disease	All Ages	Cases notified in Whole District — At Ages — Years						Total Cases notified in Parts of Contiguous Districts		Number of Cases removed to Hospital from each Contiguous District	
		Under 1	1–5	5–15	15–25	25–65	65 and upwards	Sandwell Rural District	Stourbridge Rural District	Sandwell Rural District	Stourbridge Rural District
Small pox											
Cholera											
Diphtheria including membranous croup	9		4	5				8	1		
Erysipelas	4					1	3	4			
Scarlet fever	45	1	6	34	3	1		39	6	16	
Typhus fever											
Enteric fever										+	
Continued fever											
Puerperal fever											
Puerperal fever		1				1		1		11	
Measles											
Total	59	1	10	39	3	3	3	51	8	16	

Isolation Hospital Situation — Near Norris, Cradley, Dudley District. Total available for small-pox 4. Number of disinfectants in the Sanitary Inspector's district 1.

Causes of death, and ages at, during the year 1910

Name of District— Dursley Rural

Causes of death	Deaths at subjoined ages of residents whether occurring in or beyond the District							Deaths at all ages of residents belonging to the District whether occurring in or beyond the District		Total deaths of residents in Public Institutions in the District
	All Ages	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Within the District	Without the District	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Small-pox										
Measles										
Scarlet-fever										
Whooping-cough										
Diphtheria										
Membranous croup	2	—	1	1				2		
Croup										
Fever — Typhus										
Fever — Enteric										
Fever — Other continued										
Epidemic Influenza										
Cholera										
Plague										
Diarrhœa										
Enteritis	2	1	—	1				2		
Gastritis										
Puerperal fever										
Erysipelas	2					2		2		
Phthisis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	14				1	13		10	4	2
Other Tuberculous diseases	4				2	2		2	2	
Cancer Malignant disease	18					10	8	7	11	2
Bronchitis	11					2	9	4	7	2
Pneumonia	5	3		1	1			5		
Pleurisy	1						1	1		
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs	1						1		1	
Alcoholism										
Cirrhosis of liver	4					1	3	1	3	2
Venereal diseases	1	1						1		
Premature birth	3	3						3		
Diseases of Early Infancy	2				1	1			2	
Heart Disease	20	1			2	1	16	12	8	3
Accidental Deaths	3	—	1			1	1	2	1	
All other causes	61	9	2	—	1	15	34	39	22	4
All causes	154	18	4	3	8	46	76	93	61	15

Rural District of Dursley.

Infant Mortality during the year 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in weeks and months under One year of age

Cause of Death	under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-2 months	2-3 months	3-4 months	4-5 months	5-6 months	6-7 months	7-8 months	8-9 months	9-10 months	10-11 months	11-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
All causes — Certified																	18
All causes — Uncertified																	1
Common Epidemic Diseases — Small-pox																	
Common Epidemic Diseases — Chicken-pox																	
Common Epidemic Diseases — Measles																	
Common Epidemic Diseases — Scarlet-fever																	
Common Epidemic Diseases — Diphtheria & Membranous Croup																	
Common Epidemic Diseases — Whooping-cough																	
II. Diseases of the Nervous System and of the Organs of Special Sense — Diarrhœa, all forms																	
II. Diseases of the Nervous System and of the Organs of Special Sense — Tubercular Meningitis (Hydrocephalus)			1		1												1
III. Developmental Diseases — Premature Birth	3				3												3
III. Developmental Diseases — Congenital Debility, Malformations, including Injuries at Birth	1				1			1									2
III. Developmental Diseases — Injury at Birth (Parturition)																	
III. Developmental Diseases — Want of Breast-milk, Starvation																	
III. Developmental Diseases — Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus		1	1		2												2
IV. Tubercular Diseases — Tubercular Meningitis (Hydrocephalus)																	
IV. Tubercular Diseases — Tubercular Peritonitis (Tabes Mesenterica)																	
IV. Tubercular Diseases — Other Tubercular Diseases																	
Erysipelas																	
Syphilis		1			1												1
Rickets																	
Meningitis (not Tubercular)																	
Convulsions	2				2						1						3
Bronchitis							2										2
Laryngitis																	
Pneumonia											1						1
Suffocation, Overlying																	
Other Causes	2				2											2	4
	8	2	1	-	12	-	2	1	-	-	2					2	19

Rural District of Dursley

Births in the year { Legitimate 256, Illegitimate 9

Deaths from all Causes 154.

Population estimated to middle of 1910. 11,146

Deaths in the year { Legitimate infant 19, Illegitimate — Nil